

Newsline

Water conservation

Water conservation measures are still in effect on Shaw. Watering is permitted on base and in family housing using the odd/even method. Even street addresses may water and wash cars on even dates between 6 and 8 in the morning and evening. Odd street addresses may water and wash cars on odd dates between 6 and 8 in the morning and evening.

However, base facilities or housing units with new landscaping or sod may water as necessary to ensure new landscaping or sod is not lost.

Organizational car washes are now permitted on base. Go through normal support group channels for approval.

Raceway volunteers

Shaw's Top 3 organization is looking for volunteers to man a concession booth at Darlington Raceway Sept. 1-3. Approximately 25 people are needed for Sept.1 and 35 people for Sept. 2-3.

For more information or to volunteer, call Senior Master Sgt. Bill Santiago at 895-1843.

HAZCOM training

Hazard communication training will be conducted Tuesday from 9- 10 a.m. in Building 1047 (aerospace physiology). This training is for supervisors or HAZCOM monitors. This list of individuals attending is due to Public Health by Monday.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Julee Stevens at 895-6194.

Commissioning seminar

Shaw's Education Center will conduct a commissioning seminar Aug. 22 beginning at 9 a.m. in the Airman Leadership School auditorium.

To reserve a seat, call 895-1838.

CDC extended hours

Shaw's Child Development Center is now offering care until 8 p.m. on Thursday nights to accommodate parents taking advantage of the commissary's extended hours. Cost is \$2.25 per hour, per child. Reservations are required by the Wednesday prior.

For more information or to register, call 895-2247.

Weekend Weather

Today	Saturday	Sunday
Partly cloudy H: 94 L: 73 (p.m. storms)	Partly cloudy H: 92 L: 72 (p.m. storms)	Partly cloudy H: 95 L: 72

Courtesy of the 20th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brian Jones

A final feather

Staff Sgt. Eric Novoa, 20th Component Repair Squadron, air brushes a mural in the CRS building Aug. 3. Novoa, a self-taught artist, and Airman 1st Class Larisa Shelt, formally of the 20th CRS, started the project several months ago. Novoa will add the finishing touches next week.

Shaw airmen take advantage of high OTS selection rates

By Christopher Moore
Correspondent

Selection rates for officer training school are at an all-time high and Team Shaw is taking advantage.

So far this year, 12 out of 14 active-duty Shaw members were selected to become officers by attending OTS at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

According to Sam Dairyko, base education specialist, the huge increase in rates can be attributed to a couple of factors.

"We're losing officers at a fantastic rate," Dairyko said. "The booming economy is also keeping the number of applications down."

Dairyko said he has been in the education business

since 1969. For as long as he can remember, the OTS selection rates for active-duty airmen were usually between 10 and 20 percent.

The 2000 rates are a different story. In the April board, 135 airmen out of 166 who applied will become officers – an 81 percent selection rate. In June, 75 percent of applicants were selected and in July, 62 percent were selected.

Staff Sgt. Keith Friot was a Shaw member selected at the July board. He entered the Air Force without any college almost 10 years ago. He said its never too late to get a commission.

"I'm very glad to be accepted and to be able to

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Shaw hosts Department of Juvenile Justice cadets

By Tech. Sgt. Marie Pintar
20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from two high schools run by the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice visited Shaw for the third year in a row Sunday.

The 14 cadets participated in a training event with the 156th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Charlotte, N.C. Air National Guard and toured Shaw's fire department. "The goal of the annual visit always has been to foster teamwork, discipline and accountability," said Capt. Bill Merritt, N.C. ANG flight nurse. Merritt is also a nurse at the DJJ facility.

"We are limited to what is an appropriate field trip for them because of their legal status," said Merritt. "Coming to visit Shaw is an opportunity to get out, expose them to positive people and divert their minds from their personal problems."

The first activity of the busy day was a demonstration led by Merritt on the proper way to transport a patient on a litter. He emphasized the correct positioning of a patient on a stretcher, and the trust and cooperation that must exist between the soldier on the litter and the litter bearers.

While waiting for the C-130 to arrive from Charlotte, 20th Fighter Wing Commander Col. Dana Atkins spoke briefly with the cadets about the setting and achieving of personal goals.

Once the plane arrived, members of the 156th AES ran the cadets through a drill on loading 'injured' soldiers into a C-130 configured for medical evacuation and securing their litters in place.

After the exercise concluded, Lt. Col. James Hinson, aircraft commander of the C-130, congratulated the cadets on a job well done and introduced his aircrew members to the students.

To illustrate the day's theme of teamwork, he mentioned the impossibility of carrying a wounded soldier on a stretcher without a partner. Hinson then said

he believes in people having second chances and the ability to make the best of a fresh start.

After the successful conclusion of the training scenario, ANG members had an hour of one-on-one time for mentoring the cadets and escorting them around the C-130 and one of Shaw's F-16s.

"We came to Shaw with the goal of meeting these cadets and making a difference in their lives," said Hinson.

The cadets then proceeded to Shaw's fire department where they were greeted by Stanley Bridges, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron fire safety inspector, and Senior Airman Shannon Anderson, fire fighter.

Anderson showed them the trucks and explained the purpose and use of each item worn by fire fighters when they enter a fire and allowed the students to don the fire fighting gear.

"It's heavier than I thought," said Bambi, a junior ROTC cadet. "Just putting it on is work."

The cadets have succeeded in achieving many things since 1993 when the U.S. Army activated the unit. The battalion has maintained Honor Unit status for the last two years and achieved "Honor Unit With Distinction" status for the 1999/2000 school year.

Cadets who will return to a high school with an ROTC unit may have their records transferred and continue training with the other unit, said Carpenter. Further, all students who depart in good standing receive a certificate and letter with an invitation to use their instructors as references for jobs, schools and entry into the military.

While the cadets are not tracked after they return to their private lives, a few of them have contacted Merritt later to announce they have enlisted in military service, he said.

The S.C. DJJ Junior ROTC Battalion was the first such program in the nation, said retired Army Lt. Col. Walter Carpenter, senior ROTC instructor at DJJ. The battalion consists of five companies with a total of 128 cadets.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Marie Pintar

DJJ cadets are stacked into an ANG C-130 as part of a training exercise on base Sunday.

Because the companies live together as well as train together, bed space allocations limit the size of the battalion.

"The cadets participate regularly in all the activities normally associated with junior ROTC programs," said Carpenter.

"We have classes and they visit Shaw and Fort Jackson. They go to summer training camp and we also have our own color guard and drill team. The cadets also volunteer at a local food bank," the lieutenant colonel added.

The success of South Carolina's program in helping cadets achieve educational and personal goals has prompted other states' juvenile correction programs to activate similar units.

Commissioning opportunities high

OTS, from Page 1

spend the last half of my career as an officer," said Friot. "Anyone can achieve a commissioning as long as you put your mind to it, put in long hours of studying and just do what it takes."

Dairyko added that in the past, applicants over 30 were required to get a waiver when applying to OTS.

"Now, OTS doesn't require anything until you approach your 34th birthday," said Dairyko.

People wishing to apply to OTS can make their task much easier with help from the education center staff, Dairyko said.

"It's a very simple application process," he said. "There are eight boards a year so no matter when you get your degree, there will be a board soon after."

The packages sent to the OTS board consist of Air Force Officer Qualifying Test results, a resume, all enlisted performance reports, a records review listing, college transcripts, several Air Force forms, all requests for waivers and one letter of recommendation.

Dairyko said 20th Fighter Wing members can have the wing commander provide the letter of recommendation while Ninth Air Force members can have the 9th AF commander sign theirs.

Col. Dana Atkins, 20th FW commander, is adamant about Shaw airmen making the most of their Air Force careers.

"With the OTS rates so high right now, I don't want our airmen with degrees to miss this great opportunity," he said. "If you really want to become an officer, we can help make it happen."

To further increase a member's chances Dairyko offers the following tips:

■ Apply early. People can apply up to nine months prior to graduation. A letter from the college stating when the member will graduate is required.

■ Focus on grade point averages. According to OTS officials, GPAs are looked at closer than ever and could be the difference between being selected and not.

■ Get help. The education center has the people and resources available to make getting into OTS a lot easier.

The education center has also started holding commissioning seminars to help educate Shaw people on OTS as well as other commissioning programs.

Friot said seeing other members of his squadron get commissions through the various programs is what made him work even harder for his.

"You definitely need a higher education in today's job market," said Friot. "People should take advantages provided to them to better themselves while serving their country."

For more information on OTS or any of the other commissioning programs, call the education center at **895-1838**.

Second Shaw airman convicted for ecstasy, marijuana use

A base airman was recently convicted of illegal drug use.

Airman First Class Karmen Jackson, 20th Transportation Squadron, was convicted in a general court-martial Aug. 4.

Jackson pled guilty to the illegal use of "ecstasy" and marijuana on multiple occasions over a seven-month period from September 1999 through April 2000.

She admitted to using ecstasy eight or nine times and marijuana as many as seven times during that period.

Ecstasy is the street name of MDMA (3,4 methylenedioxymethamphetamine), a substance that has been available as a street drug since the 1980s.

Its use escalated in the 1990s among college students and young adults.

Ecstasy has been shown to permanently damage a user's memory. Ecstasy's psychological effects include confusion, depression, anxiety, sleep problems, and paranoia during, and sometimes weeks after taking the drug.

Physical effects include muscle tension, involuntary teeth-clenching, nausea, blurred vision, faintness, and chills or sweating.

At least 53 deaths have been attributed to Ecstasy in England alone.

For her drug use, Jackson was sentenced by a jury of six officers to a bad conduct discharge from the Air Force, three months confinement, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances and a reduction in rank to airman basic. Jackson faced a maximum sentence of seven years confinement and a dishonorable discharge.

According to Capt. Mark Withers, Shaw's Chief of Litigation and the government counsel in the case, "This is the second consecutive drug case we have had at Shaw involving ecstasy. This court again sent the message that ecstasy is a serious drug with serious consequences, we just hope that message gets out."

The first court-martial for ecstasy occurred July 19, involving a senior airman from the 20th Communications Squadron.

He was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, nine months confinement, and reduction in rank to airman basic. *(Courtesy of the 20th Fighter Wing Legal Office)*

Across Shaw

Chief Lawson

Chief Master Sgt. Daniel E. Lawson, 20th Supply Squadron, is retiring after 30 years of service. The Summerton, S.C., native joined the Air Force in December 1970.

Chief Lawson and his wife Lorraine have four children; Michael, Shawna, Rhonda and Danielle as well as six grandchildren. Additionally, Chief Lawson has three children; Pamela, Khalilah and Melissa from a previous marriage.

After retirement, he plans to relax.

Chief Lawson’s retirement ceremony is Sept. 15 at 2 p.m. in the Club Shaw Annex Saunders Room.



Chief Lawson

Tech. Sgt. Davila

Tech. Sgt. James A. Davila, 609th Air Intelligence Squadron, is retiring after 20 years of service. Davila joined the Air Force in August 1980.

The San Antonio native has two sons; James and Robert. After retirement, Davila plans to live and work in Columbia while pursuing a degree in computer programming at the University of South Carolina.

His retirement ceremony is today at 1 p.m. at Club Shaw.

Quarterly award winners

Following are the winners of the 20th Fighter Wing quarterly awards:

Airman: Airman 1st Class Brian C. Hughes, 20th Security Forces Squadron

NCO: Staff Sgt. Lloyd A. Joyner, 20th SFS

Senior NCO: Senior MAster Sgt. Gregory R. Ubben
20th Component Repair Squadron

Company grade officer: Capt. Cameron Dadgar, 77th Fighter Squadron

GS-6 and below: John D. Whigham, Jr., 20th Supply Squadron

GS-7 and above: Patrick L. Vance, 20th SUPS

OTS selectees

The following Team Shaw members were recently selected to become commissioned officers by the Officer Training School board:

Staff Sgt. Robert A. Anson, 78th Fighter Squadron; Senior Airman Nelson Avilesfigueroa, 20th Operations Support Squadron and Staff Sgt. Keith D. Friot, 20th Component Repair Squadron.

Send requests for Across Shaw
to spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil

High E-5 promotion rate equals good news

WASHINGTON — This year’s record-setting E-5 promotion rate brings more airmen into the NCO ranks earlier, which Air Force officials say will aid retention and put the Air Force more in line with the other services’ average sew-on times.

“This year’s promotion rate of 51 percent brings the Air Force closer to the other services’ average sew-on times,” said Lt. Col. Nellie Riley, chief, promotions and evaluations branch at the air staff.

The Air Force averages 6.6 years, with the other services leading with an average of 4.2 years for the Army; 5.2 for the Navy and 4.4 for the Marines. Riley said this year’s selection rate to staff sergeant reflects the service’s return to a stable force structure and end-strength levels following years of draw down and is good news on the retention front.

“We need to remember that these are the folks who won the Kosovo air war ... went to Africa and saved lives and are supporting ‘real’ combat in SWA (Southwest Asia) every day. They

are performing above their rank every day — now we will begin to recognize the responsibility they have had by promoting them. They have already risen to the challenge and passed — with combat flying colors,” said Brig. Gen. Michael C. McMahan, director, Personnel Force Management at the air staff.

With the increased promotion rates and lower time in service and time in grade levels, there has been a drop in Promotion Fitness Exam scores.

In 1996, the average PFE score was just over 56, according to Air Force officials. It climbed to 73 in 1998, but dropped to 49 this year.

PFE and SKT test competitiveness among peers, with PFE focusing on subjects such as Air Force history and customs and courtesies, whereas SKT covers job knowledge and experience, Riley said.

“As supervisors and commanders, we need to ensure our personnel understand the importance of PFE in the development of a well-rounded NCO,” she said. “We must also remem-

ber the 5-level shortage we’ve been faced with, combined with the hectic operations tempo over the past five to 10 years, has made our senior airmen work extraordinarily hard and with r success.

“We’re confident that our commanders and supervisors are doing a great job in identifying and determining their troops’ qualifications for promotion,” the colonel said.

As the security forces manager at Altus Air Force Base, Okla., Chief Master Sgt. Charles Davis said he isn’t too concerned either about the relatively younger NCOs.

He said that many of the senior airmen in his squadron are already fulfilling supervisory roles, “so it’s not going to be a major move for them or us, because they’ve been doing a good



job supervising already,” said Chief Davis.

“We’re in a transition period right now,” Riley said. “Our top five NCO tier crease to 56 nt gives us e authorizations to promote

folks to fill them. We can expect to see promotion opportunities for the next few years unlike those we’ve seen before, with sew-on times for our mid-level NCOs declining across the board.”

“These improved promotion rates will put more money in troops’ pockets earlier, which will help relieve financial stress and improve quality of life,” she said. “We’ve always said we run out of stripes before we run out of quality people. Now we have the stripes to give those quality people.” (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Air Force News

F-16 pilots safe after collision

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. — One Air Force pilot ejected safely from his aircraft and a second returned here safely following a midair collision between two F-16s Tuesday.

Maj. David Kossler, a pilot with more than 3,300 hours of flying time (more than 1,900 in the F-16) was participating in a four-ship squadron-training mission on Nellis Air Force Range when the accident occurred. He ejected safely from his aircraft approximately 50 miles northeast of the base near Morman Mesa, sustaining only minor injuries. Kossler was recovered by Nellis’ 66th Rescue Squadron and flown to the base where he was evaluated at the Mike O’Callaghan Federal Hospital and released.

The second F-16 involved in the accident sustained minor damage and was flown by Maj. Brandon Sweat, a pilot with more than 2,400 hours of flying time (more than 2,300 in the F-16). Both pilots and aircraft involved are assigned to the 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron — part of the 53rd Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The unit operates from here.

A safety board comprised of Air Force officers convened immediately following the accident to investigate the cause of the incident. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)*

A decade later: Iraq still isolated

WASHINGTON — Nearly a decade after Operation Desert Storm, the fight against Iraqi aggression is not over, but defense officials say U.S. and coalition forces have successfully contained Saddam Hussein and maintained stability in the region.

The situation in Kuwait and Iraq today highlight the fundamental accomplishment of the past decade, according to Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon. “Kuwait is free. It’s rebuilt. It has a thriving economy,” he said. “Iraq is contained. It has a broken economy. It is an isolated state.”

U.S. pilots have flown more than 200,000 sorties

since Operation Southern Watch began in August 1992 and more than 32,400 patrolling the southern no-fly zone since Operation Desert Fox in December 1998. U.S. fighters have flown more than 16,000 sorties over northern Iraq since Operation Northern Watch began in January 1997.

Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait Aug. 2, 1990, taking control of nearly a quarter of the world’s oil supply. The U.N. Security Council condemned the invasion and set a deadline for Iraq’s withdrawa — Jan. 15, 1991.

When Iraq held firm and the deadline passed, the United States and its allies united to drive them out, gathering a force of about 500,000 troops, 3,400 tanks, 3,700 artillery, 4,000 armored personnel carriers, 2,000 helicopters and 2,600 aircraft.

On Jan. 16, coalition forces launched 38 days of continuous air attacks. Ground operations began Feb. 24. After only four days of ground combat, President George Bush called a cease-fire on Feb. 27. The Gulf War was over. *(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)*

Guard, reserve battle wildfires

CHANNEL ISLANDS AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATION, Calif. — Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve aircrews continue their efforts against California’s wildfires, flying out of this air tanker base 50 miles west of Los Angeles and a second established at Fresno Yosemite International Airport.

The 146th and 302nd Airlift Wings began retardant drops on a new target, the North Fork fire, burning in the area between King City and Coalinga. By the start of operations Aug 3, four C-130 “Hercules” cargo planes had dropped 411,000 gallons of fire retardant to help stop the advance of fires burning in the central part of the state.

The two Air Force units, working with the U.S. Forest Service and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, began air operations on July 25. Efforts first focused on the Plaskett Two fire on California’s central coast, then on the larger Manter fire. Headway made against the Manter fire, which is burning 120 miles north of Los Angeles and has blackened over 70,000 acres, freed the retardant

dropping military aircraft for service against the North Fork fire.

The 146th AW, a Ventura County-based unit of the California Air National Guard, and the 302nd AW, an Air Force Reserve unit from Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., have converted four C-130 “Hercules” transport aircraft into air tankers for use against the wildfires. Using the Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System, or MAFFS, each C-130 is quickly adapted to the aerial fire-fighting role.

The 146th and 302nd Airlift Wings are two of only four U.S. Air Force units equipped and trained to assist the U.S. Forest Service in this joint program. The 145th Airlift Wing, Charlotte, N.C., and the 153rd Airlift Wing, Cheyenne, Wyo., are also contributing to efforts against wildfires in the West, operating out of Hill AFB, Utah. *(Courtesy of AFPN)*

Banks post delayed pay

WASHINGTON — Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials said Aug. 1 pay deposits have been posted by those financial institutions which experienced problems earlier in depositing the funds.

Six financial institutions were initially identified to have problems depositing the pay files; however, it was later determined that the banking problem affected only four, said DFAS officials. DFAS officials have determined the cause of the problem rests with the financial institutions.

The four are Global Federal Credit Union, Washington Mutual, SAC FCU, and 1st Bank of Aurora.

“The bottom line is everyone’s pay was posted on payday with the exception of one financial institution and those accounts were posted on Aug. 2,” said Cathy Ferguson, DFAS spokesperson. “The financial institutions have indicated there will not be any late fee charges to service members, although if anyone has a specific problem, they should contact their financial institution.”

Ferguson said there was not one problem that banking officials could isolate across the system, “therefore, we think it was an anomaly within the bank processing system and that pay should post as it normally does at mid-month.” *(Courtesy of AFPN)*